

HOUSE BILL No. 1563

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-10.2-4-6.

Synopsis: Disability benefits. Increases the minimum monthly disability retirement benefit paid to certain members of the public employees' retirement fund (PERF) and the Indiana state teachers' retirement fund (TRF) from \$100 to \$180. Provides that a distribution of a thirteenth check by PERF or TRF must include distribution to members eligible for disability benefits.

Effective: January 1, 2007 (retroactive).

Crawford

January 23, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Labor and Employment.

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Introduced

First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1563

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning pensions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-10.2-4-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2007 (RETROACTIVE)]:
3 Sec. 6. (a) A member who becomes disabled while receiving a salary
4 or employer provided income protection benefits or who is on leave
5 under the Family and Medical Leave Act may retire for the duration of
6 ~~his~~ **the member's** disability if:

7 (1) the member has at least five (5) years of creditable service
8 before the:

9 (A) termination of a salary or employer provided income
10 protection benefits or Family and Medical Leave Act leave; or

11 (B) exhaustion of all worker's compensation benefits;

12 (2) the member has qualified for Social Security disability
13 benefits and has furnished proof of the Social Security
14 qualification to the board; and

15 (3) at least once each year until the member reaches age sixty-five
16 (65) a representative of the board verifies the continued disability.

17 For the purposes of this section, a member of the public employees'

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1 retirement fund who has qualified for disability benefits under the
 2 federal civil service system is considered to have met the requirement
 3 of subdivision (2) if ~~he~~ **the member** furnishes proof of the qualification
 4 to the board of the public employees' retirement fund.

5 (b) Benefits for disability shall be paid beginning with the month
 6 following the onset of disability as determined by the Social Security
 7 Administration. The benefit is the retirement benefit specified in
 8 section 4 of this chapter with the pension computed using only the
 9 years of creditable service worked to the date of disability and without
 10 reduction for early retirement. However, the monthly disability
 11 retirement benefit may not be less than one hundred **eighty** dollars
 12 ~~(\$100): (\$180).~~

13 (c) The member may have ~~his~~ **the member's** benefit paid under any
 14 of the retirement benefit options specified in section 7 of this chapter,
 15 except that the member may not choose to have the member's disability
 16 retirement benefit paid under the method specified under section
 17 7(b)(3) of this chapter.

18 (d) This section applies to:

19 (1) a member of the public employees' retirement fund who
 20 became disabled after June 30, 1973; and

21 (2) a member of the Indiana state teachers' retirement fund who
 22 becomes disabled after June 30, 1984, and who chooses disability
 23 retirement under this section.

24 (e) To the extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act
 25 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and any amendments and regulations to the
 26 Act, the transcripts, records, and other material compiled to determine
 27 the existence of a disability shall be:

28 (1) kept in separate medical files for each member; and

29 (2) treated as confidential medical records.

30 (f) A member may continue to receive disability benefits from the
 31 public employees' retirement fund or the Indiana state teachers'
 32 retirement fund so long as the member is entitled to receive Social
 33 Security benefits, including periods of trial employment or
 34 rehabilitation under the Social Security guidelines. However, during a
 35 period of trial employment or rehabilitation, service credit may not be
 36 granted under the public employees' retirement fund or the Indiana
 37 state teachers' retirement fund.

38 **(g) If the fund is authorized to make, in the form of a single**
 39 **check or a series of checks, a one (1) time distribution that does not**
 40 **increase the pension portion of the monthly benefit, the**
 41 **distribution shall include members eligible for disability benefits.**
 42 **A member eligible for disability benefits is required to meet all**

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1 additional requirements necessary to receive the check or series of
2 checks issued by the fund under this subsection.

3 SECTION 2. [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2007 (RETROACTIVE)]
4 IC 5-10.2-4-6, as amended by this act, applies to disability
5 retirement benefits payable by the Indiana state teachers'
6 retirement fund and the public employees' retirement fund after
7 December 31, 2006.

8 SECTION 3. An emergency is declared for this act.

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